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SEASONABLE DRAPERIES.

THE custom of using thin draperies for warm weather and packing away the heavier and warm looking plushes and winter stuffs, is growing in favor year by year.

So general has the demand for thin hangings become that manufacturers have put forth their best efforts to produce elegant and artistic materials and the market is well supplied with fine diaphanous fabrics of almost every imaginable price, quality, color and weight. For some seasons past there has been a great demand for Nottingham lace curtains, rather to the neglect of the tamboured goods, but tamboured curtains are rapidly regaining their lost prestige and are more in request than all other grades of lace goods.

This is, doubtless, merely a passing fancy, as the durability, beauty and general good qualities of Nottingham lace curtains are too well understood to permit them to be for any length of time neglected. Housekeepers, therefore, who have recently invested in these curtains need have no regrets that they have done so, and as they can be purchased at very reasonable prices, it is perfectly safe to buy them even for next summer's use. It is always the case that prices are cut down in metropolitan markets whenever an article goes ever so slightly out of favor.

Nottingham lace curtain stuffs have been decidedly improved in quality and general style within the past few years, and they are now among the most desirable of all medium-priced lace draperies. They cover a very wide range in quality and price, the lowest grade in full-sized, fairly good goods being about \$1.50 per window and running through the entire scale up to \$85 or \$40 per window. Tamboured lace begins its low grade at about \$2 per window, ranging through all qualities and prices up to \$45, and some choice patterns are still more expensive. Both of these styles have different sizes, the smaller, in fairly good materials, being about three and one half yards long by fifty inches wide. The next larger size is four yards long by sixty inches wide. There are always extra large sizes and special patterns that cost more than those known as "regular" goods.

The tamboured curtains with combinations of *appliqué* work are very attractive, and some of them are very high-priced, ranging through several styles of composite work to several hundred dollars for a single pair of curtains. Very elegant all-tamboured curtains can, however, be bought just at present at marvelously low prices notwithstanding their popularity, as improved machinery and low prices of raw material have made the cost of production much less than it has heretofore been.

Fine curtains of cotton, canvas, scrim or etamine, for either name means the same fabric, are very attractive. The richest styles are made with wide insertions and edging of Florentine or Russian laces, and a few very costly ones have the edging and insertion made of point lace braid in heavy qualities. Some extra fine curtains of the latter style are worth \$350 to \$400 the window. There are also curtains with insertions and edgings of Irish point lace, and with antique lace as well, and the Cluny or Russian lace as some dealers call it. The last two are not very expensive, costing from \$8 to \$25 the window.

In fancy woven and lace-striped scrim or etamine, there is almost endless variety. The lowest price for plain goods in good quality is 12 to 16 cents per yard, double width. The lace-striped goods cost all the way from 22 cents up to about 75 cents, while extra fine grades of the plain fabric may be had at 80 to 95 cents per yard. There are also printed etamines, wild roses, carnations, and various designs in color being printed upon ecru or white grounds. These printed etamines are susceptible of very pretty uses. They make admirable chamber curtains and portières for doors where effect, more than concealment, is desired. They may be made up with antique or other laces or used plain. They cost but 15 to 20 cents per yard, and the antique lace for trimming them is correspondingly low in price.

A new etamine is shown, being printed in a sort of basket pattern and having tinsel threads running through it. This is called Rajah cloth and is quite popular because of its novelty.

Madras curtain stuffs are especially popular for summer use. They are among the most effective of medium and low-priced drapery materials. Very pretty curtains can be bought for \$3.75 the window. From this price there is a regular ascending scale up to \$25 or \$30 for very choice qualities and designs. Regular Madras goods is woven with an independent figure upon a rather thin ground. The pattern has the appearance of being trimmed off on the back. In reality it has been so treated, all threads connecting the figures being cut away either by hand or machinery. There are various thin and inexpensive fabrics that are called Madras cloths, but they are merely printed batistes, taking their name from the colors and designs of the goods they imitate.

A very pretty printed Madras of the kind just described, and sixty inches wide, costs 50 cents per yard. The regular Madras comes by the yard as well as in pattern curtains.

A material known as "Algerian stripe" shows a dull yellow ground with blue, olive, red, and brown stripes in faded tints,

and tinsel threads showing between the stripes. Printed India mull curtains are in demand. They come in dull red, blue, cream, ecru and olive, and cost about \$3.75 the window.

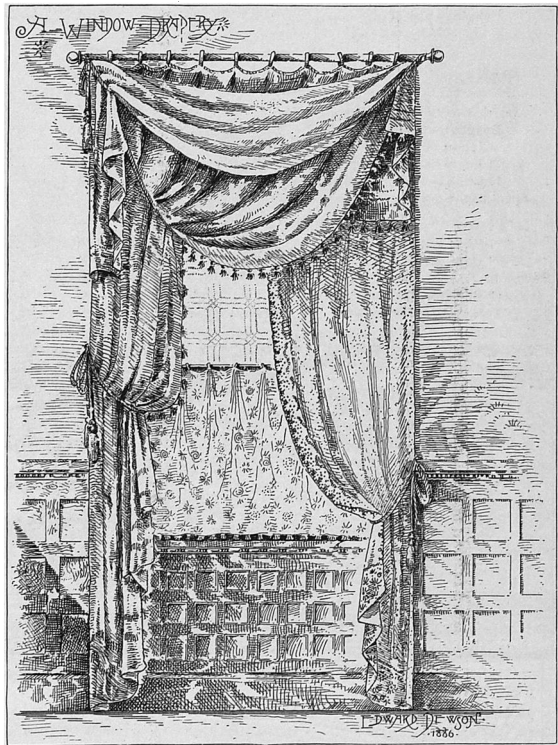
Raw silk goods are popular for medium weight draperies. The Java stripes, as they are called, come in all colors. There are also some fine light silk mixed goods with stripes scarcely thicker than barege. They are very pretty and graceful.

Light weight pure silk goods are popular for draperies, they are quite wide and not at all expensive, quality considered. They come in plain and brocaded goods, and may be made up perfectly plain with a deep hem, or there may be rows of lace insertion and edging used with the silk, particularly if the color is delicate. One of the most exquisite designs in this line was recently carried out in the furnishing of the boudoir and chamber of a young lady resident of a Southern city. The rooms faces the south and east. The carpets are of pale gray ground with large cactus blooms in delicate pink, the pale grayish green of the plant stalks that wander over the surface making a charming combination of color.

The furniture was made to order and is upholstered in gray satin brocaded with cactus stalks and blooms to match the carpet. The windows open upon a covered balcony and have inside blinds and roller shades.

The curtain draperies are made of rose colored silks and fine "plat" Valenciennes lace in the rose pattern that is now so popular. The lace insertions are set between strips of the silk that are about four or five inches wide. Around the margin of the curtains are edgings of the lace five inches wide. Looped lambrequins of silk and lace depend from the window caps; the loopings in the middle where the curtains part having a large bow and long ends of rose colored satin and gros grain ribbon.

The bedstead is of polished brass, with fine porcelain tiles set in the head and foot cross pieces. There is a large canopy frame, which is covered with rose colored silk. Curtains made



WINDOW DRAPERY. DESIGNED BY EDWARD DEWSON.

to match those at the windows surround the head of the bed and extend along the sides of the frame, being looped back by wide ribbons. The remainder of the frame of the canopy is draped with a lace flouncing about forty inches wide, in quality and pattern matching that used in the window curtains. It is looped at each corner, once on each side, midway between the long curtains and the foot of the bed, and once at the foot in the middle of the frame-cast looping, having ribbon bows to match those at the windows.

The bed spread is made of a large square of rose colored silk with several rows of insertion alternating with strips of silk, the edge being finished by a row of lace about ten inches wide,

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

that hangs over the edge of the bed and extends about half-way from the surface of the bed to the floor. Pillow shams are made in the same fashion. There are portières to match, with similar loopings. Upon a large soft couch there is a very light down quilt of the same silk, with a lace border. This covers the little American princess during her afternoon siestas on cool days.

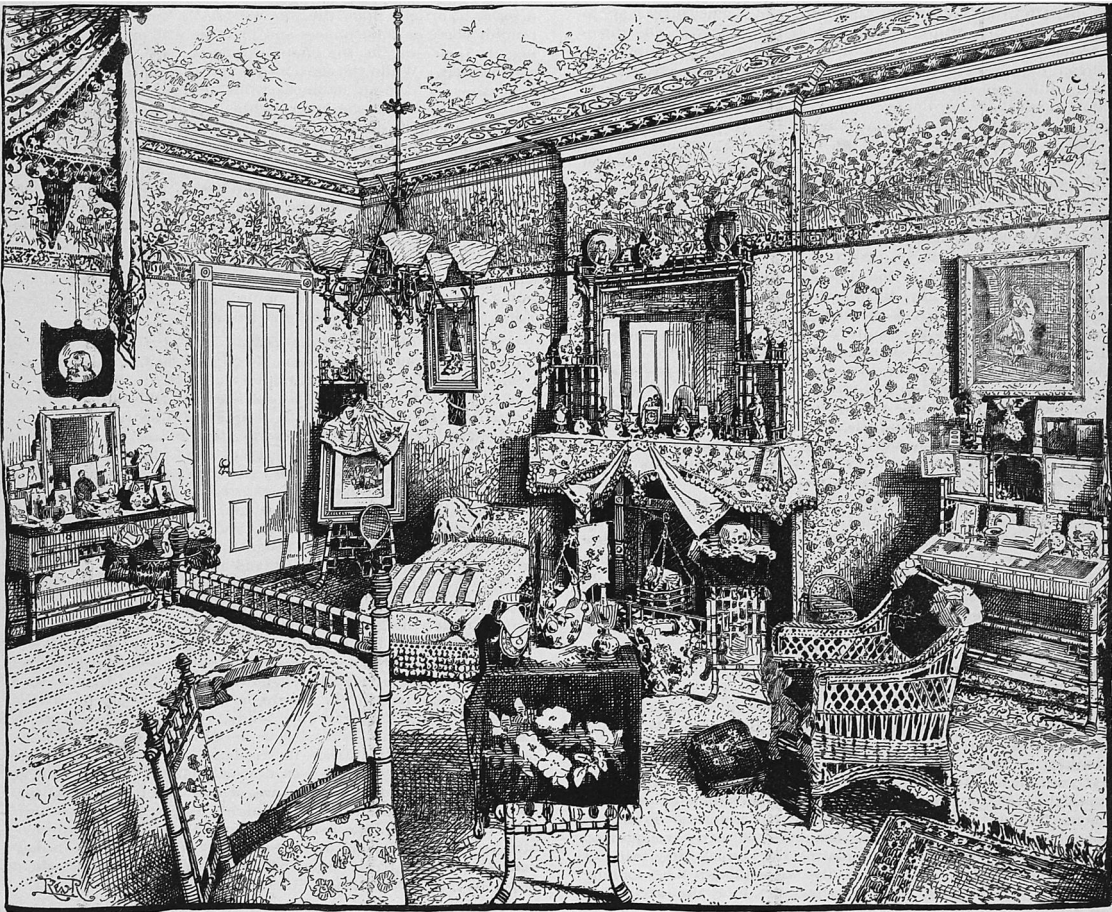
Few light weight drapery materials have been introduced that are susceptible of so many exquisite uses as these silk fabrics. The hangings just described are all of plain silk, but those with various brocaded patterns are equally desirable. Some extremely elegant hangings have been made with netted and knotted fringe and exquisitely fine insertions of drawn work.

Narrow silk goods of this class are made for vestibule windows and glass doors. For this purpose they are made up plainly, being simply hemmed at top and bottom. For doors there are small brass rods and adjustable end fastenings, so that they are easily removed. For side lights it is the most convenient and economical way to put a small flat strip of wood through the hems at top and bottom, and fasten the pieces with small

are being ordered for folding doors in country houses. In curtain poles there are various attractive patterns. For plain, ordinary use, walnut and ash poles, with acorn ends, are preferred. They cost from 40 cents to \$1.75, according to finish and length. Some of the finer ones have brass tips and brass rings. Cherry is a popular wood for such purposes. In costly fittings there are elaborate brass rods in fancy patterns of various sorts. Looping chains of brass rings, links or twisted loops, are popular. They cost from 20 cents to \$1 each.

All shades are now put upon spring rollers, and have fringe at the lower edges. Ecrú and greenish gray are the popular colors. They cost from 75 cents to \$1.25 per window with all fittings and put up complete for use.

An old-fashioned stand may be improved by fastening a shelf underneath, about four inches from the floor, fastening the corners of the shelf firmly to the legs of the stand. Filled with books or bric-à-brac it is quite ornamental. Around the edge of the shelf and around the legs of the stand put moldings of Lincrusta-Walton, and stain to imitate any wood desired.



A TASTEFULLY AND ECONOMICALLY FURNISHED BEDROOM IN A NEW YORK RESIDENCE.

finishing nails or the sort generally used for nailing on mouldings. The head of the nail, which should not be entirely driven in, is concealed by the gathers in the curtain.

Of course there must be Mikado draperies, as the fancy for "something Japanese" is certain to extend into every branch of trade. There are quaint figures in characteristic attitudes and parasols and fans in various arrangements, printed on grass cloth, pongee, and several grades of cotton goods. There are also Mikado stripes, cool looking, pretty and effective.

Silk Turcoman curtains are allowable all the year round, and are especially desirable for portières, where it is necessary to shut off the view altogether. These curtains have a very wide range of values, being found at \$5 the window up to \$100 for fabrics that are real works of art. A later style than the Turcoman, and one that is growing in favor, is the chenille curtain. There are new patterns that are extra wide and very fine and light in weight. They are in good demand for summer use, and

THE exceedingly tasteful bedroom shown on this page may serve as a model for some of our lady readers in the arrangement of their own apartment. The room is light and bright, summery and inviting. The cool cretonne sets the furnishing off nicely and is aided by the pattern of the wall paper. The bamboo furniture is well suited to the general effect. The appearance of the room, entire, is attractive and home-like.

A VERY pretty and inexpensive protection for gilt picture or mirror frames is the pink mosquito net which comes plain without bars, looped back each side of the picture and fastened with a bow of pink ribbon.

VARNISH on the woodwork of halls and corridors is to be commended as tending to utilize more fully the available light and as contributing to cleanliness.